

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Farm Service Agency  
Washington, DC 20250

**Notice AO-1196**

**For:** State and County Offices

**Postponing 1999 COC Elections**

**Approved by:** Executive Director for State Operations



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**1 Overview**

**A**

**Background**

Because of heavy workload in County Offices, EDSO has decided to postpone the 1999 COC elections until March 6, 2000.

**B**

**Purpose**

This notice provides State and County Offices with the 1999 COC election calender.

**C**

**Contact**

If there are any questions about this notice, contact Karl Choice at 202-720-8782 or FAX at 202-205-2883.

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**2 Action**

**A**

**State Office  
Action**

STC's shall require COC's to:

- establish an area committee composed of 3 to 5 LAA's in combined county operations and 3 LAA's in a single county, if applicable
- recommend appointment of COC advisors to ensure a fair representation of minorities and females before June 1, 2000.

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**Disposal Date**

June 1, 2000

7-19-99

**Distribution**

State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

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### 2 Action (Continued)

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#### B

##### County Office Action

COC's shall:

- review 15-AO, Part 3, Section 3 for establishing LAA's
- recommend to STC LAA boundaries for the 1999 elections

**Note:** If changes are recommended, submit changes to STC for approval according to 15-AO, paragraph 61.

- submit a justification with DD's concurrence to STC for approval if COC recommends to remain a one-LAA county or to establish multiple COC's in combined county operations.
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### 3 1999 Election Calendar

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#### A

##### Election Dates and Events

State and County Offices shall take action by the dates in the following election calendar.

Action Date	Events
<b>Immediately continue outreach activities and update eligible voters' lists.</b>	
November 1, 1999	COC begins review of LAA boundaries.
November 4	Final date for COC to submit LAA boundaries to STC.
December 18	STC approval of LAA boundaries.
January 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Final date to publicly announce LAA boundaries.</li><li>• Complete eligible voter's list.</li><li>• Public notice of election and right to nominate candidates.</li></ul>
January 21, 2000	Final date for receiving nominating forms.
February 11	Final date for COC to review, approve, and complete slate of nominees.
February 18	Final date for mailing letters to nominees.

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**3 1999 Election Calendar (Continued)**

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**A  
Election Dates  
and Events  
(Continued)**

Action Date	Events
February 24	Deadline for mailing ballots.
March 1	Suggested date to mail reminder postcards.
March 6	Final date for returning completed ballots.
March 14	Final date for tabulating ballots and public notice of election results.
March 20	Final date to send election reports to State Office.

**Notes:** Hold the COC organizational meeting before the first regular COC meeting. Send the report to the State Office within 5 workdays after the organizational meeting.

Newly elected COC members and their alternates begin their terms on April 1, 2000. A full term is for 3 years and a partial term is less than 3 years.

Current advisors shall continue to serve until new advisors are appointed. Advisors shall be appointed effective June 1, 2000. A full term is for 1 year and a partial term is less than 1 year.

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